



FORESTRY NEWS



Montana Foresters Arrive In Arizona !

A southern migration began for two new foresters who recently moved down from Montana. Although the moves were independent, it is interesting that both headed south at approximately the same time. Shawn Blackman now works in Presales.



Shawn Blackman

Like Amy Beach, Shawn is a graduate of the Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, MT. Shawn and Amy were, in fact, running partners in college. A single mother of a young boy at the time, Shawn pushed hard to complete her forestry studies in three years. Besides taking all the classes leading to her forestry degree, Shawn was able to use summer internships to further her forestry knowledge. Her first summer internship lead her to Fort Defiance on the Navajo Reservation where she worked in fuels and on engines. The next two summers she worked back on her

own reservation in Browning, Montana on the Blackfeet Reservation. She worked in presales. During that time she also came down on two 14-day fire assignments to work on the Wallow Fire. Little did she know then that this area would become her future home. After graduation, Shawn got her first permanent forester position as a timber sales administrator on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Lame Deer, Montana. Shawn is a strong advocate of fitness and eating right. While in college, exercise and a proper diet made it possible for her to lose an incredible 115 pounds! She said that "The Biggest Loser" was her favorite TV program and one of the few that she had time to watch. She has a wealth of knowledge on the subject and is more than happy to share her life-saving knowledge with others who would like help in that arena. She states, ***"You can be anything you want to be. It takes a strong-minded person to succeed, but only a person with a strong heart and will can make that happen!"*** Shawn has two young boys: 7-year-old Maki & 2-year-old Noah.



Jim Beyer

Jim Beyer graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Forest Resource Management from Syracuse University but has lived in western Montana for the last 34 years. He worked for the BIA Flathead Agency for 16 of those years. His last position there was as the Pre-sales and Forest Management, Inventory and Plans (FMI&P) Supervisory Forester but he also worked in timber sales for the same agency. Jim's supervisors during those years are two well-known foresters who both worked at Fort Apache during their careers: Ken Dupuis and Dennis Dupuis. Due to a reduction-in-force in 1995, Jim lost his forestry job but went on to become a real estate broker and general contractor. He also did forestry consulting work writing forestry pamphlets and doing post-fire monitoring work for the Montana Department of

Natural Resources. Jim also taught Forest Mensuration and Forest Surveying classes at the Salish Kootenai College (1996-2002) although he left too early to be one of Shawn or Amy's instructors. Jim is very happy to be back full-time in the forestry field. ***"I feel very honored to be given a second chance to get back to the career I love. Once a forester, always a forester,"*** he states. ***"Even when I was a general contractor, I cared deeply about forestry issues and tried to stay involved."*** Jim and his wife Gwen have two sons and a daughter, all currently in college in Montana. Jim and Gwen are very active in childhood disability issues. Gwen is the coordinator of the Deaf/Blind project in MT and Jim serves as a board member on the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children. Jim also manages an annual program in Washington D.C. for blind students.

